



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Francisco Bay Region



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, California 94612
(510) 622-2300 • Fax (510) 622-2460
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb2>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

April 30, 2004

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT
For a Proposed Amendment
to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Water Board), will consider for adoption an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan).

The proposed amendment would revise the Basin Plan to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for mercury in San Francisco Bay and an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL targets and allocation.

Action on the proposed amendment will be taken in accordance with a certified regulatory program exempt under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), and with other applicable laws and regulations.

There will be two public hearings on the proposed Basin Plan amendment.

DATES: Wednesday, June 16, 2004
Wednesday, September 15, 2004

The Water Board will receive oral public testimony on the proposed amendment at the hearing on June 16, 2004. The Water Board will not take action until the second hearing on September 15, 2004. Oral public testimony at the September 15 hearing will be limited to comment on changes that may be proposed by the Water Board or its staff to the Basin Plan amendment that are the logical outgrowth of the original proposal.

TIME: During the Water Board's regular meeting, which begins at 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Elihu M. Harris State Building
First Floor Auditorium
1515 Clay Street
Oakland, California 94612

STAFF CONTACTS: Bill Johnson, 510 622-2354 (ph), e-mail: bjj@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov
Richard Looker, 510 622-2451 (ph), e-mail: rel@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov
510 622-2460 (fax)

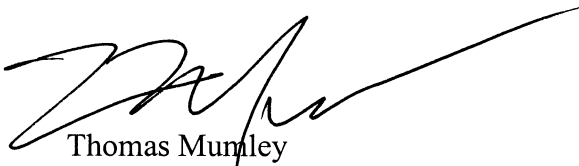
The public hearings will be conducted in accordance with 23 Cal. Code of Regs. § 649.3. Time limits may be imposed on oral testimony at the public hearings; groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. All exhibits presented at the hearings, including charts and graphs, must be left with the Water Board, as they will become part of the administrative record.

At the conclusion of the public hearings, the Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed amendment, or changes to the proposed amendment that are consistent with the general purpose of the proposed Basin Plan amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the evidence and testimony received.

The draft staff report, including all attachments such as the CEQA checklist and the draft Basin Plan amendment, which serve as the environmental document functionally equivalent to the requirements of CEQA for preparation of environmental documentation, may be downloaded from the Water Board Web site starting April 30, 2004, at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb2/sfbaymercurytml.htm>. Copies of the report, entitled "Mercury in San Francisco Bay Total Maximum Daily Load Proposed Basin Plan Amendment and Staff Report," are also available at the Water Board offices. Further information and copies may also be obtained from the staff contact above.

All evidence, testimony (except rebuttal testimony) and exhibits proposed to be offered at the hearings must be submitted in writing to the Water Board staff contacts no later than June 14, 2004 in order to be considered by the Water Board. Copies of general vicinity maps or large and non-technical photographs are not required to be submitted prior to the hearing. Non-evidentiary policy statements to be made at the hearing need not be submitted in advance. Water Board staff will respond to timely submitted written comments.

A map and directions to the hearing are available on the Water Board web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb2/direction.htm>. The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the Executive Assistant at least 5 working days before the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.



Thomas Mumley
Planning & TMDLs Division Chief

Date: *Apr. 130, 2004*